

THE CHINA MAIL.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, 31st MAY, 1866.

DEATHS.

On the 20th May, at Shanghai Hospital, COLONEL JOHN AINSIE, in the 55th May, at Shanghai, only Daughter of A. G. Hooge, aged 17 months.
At Hongkong, on Board the W. P. Palmer, on the 18th May, one BAKER, Seaman, (of Fobris later).
At the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, on the 23rd May, JOHN THOMSON, Seaman, late of the U.S.S. Hartford.
At Hongkong, on the 27th May, ELIAS HOOG, aged 1 year and 8 months.
At the Seamen's Hospital, Hongkong, on the 20th May, H. KIRKPATRICK, Seaman, ex-barque Jason.
At the Civil Hospital, Hongkong, on the 31st May, HARRIS HARRIS, Seaman, aged 15 years.

EGGERS OF THE WEEK.

Shanghai Gas.—Municipal Council.—Case of FLETCHER & Co.—Chinese official obstructiveness.—Newchwang; arrival of "Wachusette."—Safety of foreign settlements.—Japan; Chosin.—The Itzoo exchange scandal.—The new Hospital.—The Hongkong Mint.—Improvement in coinage.—Disadvantage of the Volunteer Corps.—Arrival of 2nd portion of XXth Regt.—New Opera Company.—The weather.

From Shanghai we have dates to the 24th instant. The Municipal Council are taking steps for lighting the town with gas, and the wharf dues are to be revised, on a fairer scale than at present. A case of great importance and involving large interests has been decided in the Supreme Court. The action was brought by the Bank of India against the trustees of the estate of D. Fletcher and Archibald Campbell (Fletcher & Co.), the question turning upon the question of the legal right of Thos. Drysdale to raise money upon certain securities which the Trustees claimed as the property of A. Campbell and D. Fletcher as partners in the original firm of Fletcher & Co. The amount under litigation in this case was £15,000, which by the decision given in favor of the Trustees, is a dead loss to the Bank of India. The latter advanced the money on what was considered good security, and the case is a hard one; but as lawyers say, "hardship is no plea in law."

The Chinese authorities have been exhibiting more than their usual amount of pigheadedness and have been exercising their lying propensities more strongly than usual by first prohibiting Chinese from employing foreign vessels in the bean cake trade, which has its head quarters at Newchwang, and secondly by stoutly denying the authorship of a notice to Chinese merchants warning them against infringing such prohibition, which was posted on one of the gates of the city. When expostulated with, the wily pigtailed volunteers the information that "steps were being taken in the proper quarters," "representations would be made, to the higher authorities" &c. &c. and other very safe expressions. It is strange how the vague expressions and set forms of speech which are used in diplomacy by Western nations are thus reproduced in the far east, by the astute and cautious mandarin. The Chief of the Circumlocution department at Downing Street when called upon to explain any suspicious little job, says that "steps are being taken" &c. and the Son of Heaven, his ministers and inferior officers, use the same highly satisfactory and comprehensive expressions in their official intercourse with foreigners. Truly like Frankenstein we have made our ogre and he pursues us to the uttermost parts of the earth. Can any one imagine a more concise and exquisite synonym for diplomacy than the Chinese expression "talking round the corner?"

Those of our readers who are interested in Newchwang or have friends there, will be glad to hear that the foreign settlement is now out of danger of an attack from the Nienfei who had taken the city of Newchwang; we hear by last advices that the American steamer Wachusette had arrived, and five hundred disciplined troops had been sent to garrison the city, which having plundered, the Rebels had evacuated, after committing unheard of outrages and killing numbers of the inhabitants.

From Japan the news is unimportant, there appearing to be an utter stagnation in political matters. Chosin has consented to easier terms. This powerful potentate who is virtually though not nominally the equal of the Tycoon, can well afford to give way a little, when he considers that the latter has to pay for the wrong doings of his vassals, the proud and restless Daimios; of which unfortunate necessity of this position, the payment for the Simoneseki affair is the first illustration, and may not be the last. The "Itzoo

exchange" has been the cause of a rather disagreeable imbroglio in the military circles of Yokohama; the matter we hear has been arranged and it is of no use stirring up old grievances; we would only call attention to one or two quaint old sayings we have heard somewhere; about "killing the goose who lays the golden eggs," and of the folly of "piggin" shooters quarrelling about the feathers.

The most important item of local news during the past week, which we slightly noticed in our last issue has been the opening of the new Seamen's Hospital, which took place on the 25th instant. The firm of Messrs Jardine Matheson & Co. have in this instance again come forward with the princely generosity and active public spirit, which has characterized the action taken by the house in every public undertaking, since the infancy of Hongkong, and which has been displayed more especially in the valuable support which was afforded to the Sailor's Home, in conjunction with the firm of Messrs Dent & Co.; and again looking further back, and touching more immediately upon the present subject, when years ago Hongkong had to thank Messrs Jardine Matheson & Co. for the only hospital it possessed, which stands to the present day, as the Civil Hospital. When the Trustees of the old Seamen's Hospital met to concert measures for the building of a new one, the scheme proved difficult, funds being required for the purpose, when Messrs Jardine Matheson & Co. stepped in and offered to advance the whole of the necessary funds, leaving it to the community to repay them at their pleasure. Thus a scheme which might have been in abeyance for months, during which time the old hospital would have crumbled to the ground, was put in working order at a moment's notice, by the prompt and generous interference of the East Point firm. Although there cannot be the slightest doubt of the community coming forward and reimbursing Messrs Jardine Matheson & Co. for their outlay, (thirteen thousand dollars having been subscribed before the opening of the hospital, since which the well known liberality of Hongkong must have subscribed many thousands more), this certainty of repayment does not in the least detract from the generosity of the sole supporters of the original cost of the building, who have acted as bankers for the Hospital without a deposit account to its credit, a commercial risk which few would accept.

The new hospital is a two storied building with four wings enclosing an open court yard, containing bath rooms &c. It is built on a breezy hill on the road to East Point, and is open to both north-easterly and southerly winds. The interior arrangements are excellent, there being two wards for Europeans and lascars and a first and second ward for officers of ships. The moderate sum of one dollar per day will be charged for each seaman admitted, which ought to cover the working expenses of the establishment.

The dollars which have been coined lately by the Mint show a marked improvement on first attempts, the milling being more perfect, and the coin having a much "cleaner" appearance. The design of course still remains an eyesore, and will continue so we suppose till the demise of Her Most Gracious Majesty, when new dies will have to be cut, and we hope a more useful and artistic design will be adopted; in the mean time most unfavorable opinions have been expressed of the "variability" of the new dollars, the impression being so faint and shallow; time alone will show if this defect really attaches to the new coins, but it is very unfortunate that the great experiment of a British coinage should thus be conducted under so many disabilities as regards necessary machinery, and should suffer from so many deficiencies as regards design. Great credit is however due to Captain Kinder the Master of the Mint for the degree of efficiency which he has achieved, with the disadvantages under which he labors, as regards skilled labor, and the employment of Chinese.

Since our last issue the Volunteer Corps has become an thing of the past, the officers having resigned, and the Corps ceasing to exist on the 1st proximo, the troop being virtually broken up when the former event took place. After a show of effort on the part of the press, and a conspicuous absence of response from the community on the projected disbandment of the corps, the only thing done has been a movement with a view to save the band from being scattered and broken up, which we hear has been tolerably successful.

ful, a subscription being on foot to find the necessary dollars to "sooth" the wheels of the descending vehicle.

The remaining portion of the 20th Regiment arrived here on the 22nd instant; the heavy rain which came down in sheets during the whole of the time they were disembarking must have made the men growl at such a foretaste of Hongkong weather.

A series of performances by the French Opera Company is advertised, which will take place at the Garrison Theatre; the Company have been "favourably received" at Shanghai, and will be a relief to the dullness of a Hongkong summer.

The yearly floods seem fairly set in, constant rain having fallen for the last five days; this is a great boon as the streets were almost impassable from the horrid effluvia of the drains, which have now had a thorough flushing.

We quote in another portion of our columns a very excellent article which appeared in the North-China Herald of the 19th instant, on the subject of Consular reports. It points out just the very details in which those furnished by Consuls in China are deficient, and regrets that these documents do not embody particulars respecting the geographical and topographical features of the country with fuller particulars of the resources of each Consular district. In these remarks we entirely concur, and have long wondered how it is that Her Majesty's Government is content to receive reports which are in many cases mere clerical amplifications of the returns which are yearly furnished by the printed statistics of the Imperial Customs.

The fault lies not so much with the officers called upon to furnish these reports as with those who receive them. What man will (unless he be an enthusiastic lover of any particular science or pursuit intimately connected with geography or ethnology) sit down to write what in reality becomes an essay on any subject of importance, under the mortifying certainty that his manuscript will be perused with an official sneer at the want of sense evinced by the writer in departing from the strict line of red tape routine? We are quite aware that instructions from the Foreign Office direct Her Majesty's Consuls to furnish reports on all subjects of general interest. We are further aware that the reports are published in *extenso* in the yearly Blue Books. But in the face of this we maintain that no encouragement is given to Her Majesty's Consuls in China to do more than pen a statistical report which "in pipe cases out of ten could be better done by a subordinate employe of the Maritime Customs. The mere fact of the report being received and acknowledged in the ordinary official course cannot be called "encouragement." Were any tangible reward held out; were it understood that zeal in this respect, without prejudice to the performance of other official duty, would increase the chances of promotion or better pay in the case of junior officers and would meet with some official mark of approbation when displayed by superior, a blue book might annually be produced which would be interesting not only to the "compiler" of dollars and cents but to the literary world at large.

In the article we have above alluded to we observe that the report of H.M. Consul at Tientsin is noted as being the only one containing any general information. Mr. MORRIS touches on the fact of large coal fields existing to the Northward of Peking and the North-China Herald sees in this an opening for the introduction of Railways. In this respect we differ from the writer. From the knowledge we possess of that locality we are of opinion that the railroad must precede the establishment of a tramway from the mines, instead of the tramway being constructed in the first instance. The reasons for our opinion are, that in the first place a vastly increased opposition would have to be encountered on the establishment of a scheme, which to the short sighted natives would seem to threaten the destruction of the large carrying trade now carried on between the Mines and Peking. Secondly the difficulties of constructing any permanent way North of Peking would be far greater than those to be encountered between that Capital and Tientsin, where nature seems to have kindly marked out a natural route with little required further than to lay down the rails. On the other hand the establishment of the line of rail ad-

vanced by us would materially enhance the coal trade between the Mines and Peking and the increased employment afforded to natives would tend rather to popularize the scheme than otherwise. The Hongkong public are awaiting with no small interest the result of the shareholders application to Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK. Now, if ever, is the time to obtain a favourable hearing from the Chinese Government; but we fear one material point has been overlooked. There is little hope of the Peking Authorities giving permission for the construction of the required line, unless it can be made evident to them that it will result in pecuniary gain to the native exchequer. Let the offer be made to purchase the land necessary for the formation of the line, direct from the Authorities, leaving them to settle the amount of compensation to be awarded to any ejected occupants. This would be in strict accordance with Chinese law, and would be the property of the Crown. The number of persons who would be actually ejected would be infinitesimal as for nearly the whole distance the line might be carried clear of houses; a few fields would be cut up but that would be all. Moreover a mixed commission of two Chinese and two British Officials might be appointed to entertain claims from parties who considered themselves injured; it being understood that the lion's share of the consideration paid went into the Imperial exchequer.

That the line would pay and pay well any one who has resided in the North can well believe. The only wonder is that so long a time has been allowed to elapse before action in the matter has been taken. That Sir R. Alcock is far more favourably disposed to the scheme, than was Sir F. BAYES there can be no doubt, but whether he is inclined to actually press matters remains to be seen. The chief danger in the way of opposition rests not so much with the Chinese themselves as with the representatives of other powers who may feel disinclined to commit themselves to any line of policy, which may result in giving British enterprise a preponderance in that hitherto secluded portion of the empire.

Surely those interested in the scheme at Hongkong might do something in the matter. A representation making an explicit offer to the Chinese Government or rather naming the basis on which the negotiation would be carried on, ought to do much, while the appointment of a thoroughly fit representative of the Committee to proceed to Peking and personally press the affair would doubtless do more. As matters now stand there seems to be no chance of a move being made.

The nature of the land upon which this City has been constructed affords unusual natural facilities for securing to its inhabitants the advantage of good drainage, and an easily arranged system of water supply. We have repeatedly expressed our opinion that the drains and sewers of the City are in such a bad condition as to call for early attention on the part of the local government, and we shall not cease to hold the conviction that the whole of the inhabitants of Victoria are extremely fortunate in that violent epidemics have not hitherto during the present year made their appearance in the island.

The report of the "Medical Commission" which was published a short time since further proves to what a serious and alarming extent the drainage of the most densely populated quarters has been hitherto utterly neglected. We notice with pleasure that one very desirable sewer is in course of construction; namely down the centre of Wyndham Street from the Albion Road to Queen's Road. The satisfaction with which this work in progress may be contemplated, is certainly qualified by the reflection that its progress might have been expedited to forestall the probability of our usual heavy downfall of rain at this period of the year; and the construction of the sewer might have been begun in time to secure its completion before this date. Proof of some such forethought being desirable is to be found in the appearance presented by that portion of Wyndham Street where the work is in progress at the present date; the late heavy downfall of rain having forced the contractor to stop work for the time at least, while the surface water has made havoc with the loose earth. Still with this drawback and disagreement, an important consideration remains in the fact of the work being in actual operation, and we must all be glad to see public money

expended in such a way for the public welfare. Indeed had all the enormous sums of money hitherto expended on public works, roads, or buildings, including the mint and the costly and not really required constructions at Stone Cutters Island, been "productive of equal or even approximate benefit" to the public, the condition of the City would be much more healthy and its appearance far more satisfactory than is at present the case.

The water supply of the Island generally and of the City in particular has an intimate relation to the drainage question. We regret to find that the quantity of water now meted out to taxpayers in return for their money is by no means what it should be. Whether it be that the reservoirs are too small, or the pipes are not well filled every day, or from other causes we do not know; but the fact remains that numerous houses taxed regularly for water do not obtain a supply sufficient for the ordinary and fair requirements of residents therein. This is an evil under which we have long laboured, and in our opinion it becomes a matter calling for and meriting the attention of His Excellency the Governor. It is quite enough to know that many tax-payers who pay for water do not get what they pay for, to justify the opinion that the Government ought to seek and establish a remedy.

There is water to be had in abundance on the Island and there is therefore no excuse for keeping the City scantily supplied. If the cause be that the reservoirs are not sufficiently large, others should be constructed. Another and more extensive dam could at a moderate cost be built some distance higher up the hill than that now existing at Pokfulam. Other steps could be adopted calculated to remedy the evil we point out, and amongst them, the water might be allowed to flow from the tanks and reservoirs into the supply pipes for a greater space of time daily than at present, while the duty of attending to this matter should be in the hands of a trustworthy European, and not of a native as we understand is now the case.

From our PARIS Correspondent.

PARIS, 18th April, 1866.

Thursday, the 13th of April will ever remain memorable in the annals of the Bourse of Paris. Public securities French and Foreign, fell to a terribly low ebb, and one would have almost thought that we had returned to the time of the commencement of the Crimean war.

The following reports were being circulated. Prussia had just signed an offensive and defensive treaty with Italy. War would shortly be proclaimed between Austria and Prussia. A Turkish army to the amount of sixty thousand men was marching on the Danubian principalities; so much for foreign affairs. As regards home matters, it was affirmed that a general bankers' meeting, and that two of the greatest stock-brokers of Paris, were about to suspend, and finally that the Credit Mobilier and the Comptoir d'Escompte were in a most disastrous state; there is evidently disturbance everywhere, and none can tell what a day may bring forth.

War it is believed on all sides is inevitable—as the first of the two German powers which draws back is sure of losing its influence for ever. Bismarck who wishes to play the part of Cæsar will never give way. Italy which is driven into a corner by want of money, will not let such a favourable opportunity go by without attempting to regain Venetia; you see we have every reason to fear that Prussia, Austria, and Italy will have recourse to war to cover their multitude of sins at home. We are even more anxious about the turn that matters will take with us; it will be a wonder if the reactionary tendencies on the part of a great many supporters of our government do not urge the people of France to extreme measures—we are fooled to the top of our bent.

The enthusiasm for the Empire seems to have much abated in the army since the decree of last year reducing the army expenditures. On the 7th of March a grand review of the Cavalry and Artillery was held in the Bois de Boulogne, in presence of the Emperor, the Prince of Prussia, and the usual circle of *Vice R. Empereurs* were, we remarked few and far between, and we are assured that H. J. M. was very much vexed at the coolness of his reception.

Our Emperor is at present in a fix and does not know whom to listen to; some of his advisers wish him to grant the fullest liberty to the nation, others beg of him to tighten the reins and prevent the unquiet spirits as he calls them, stirring either of the public, is that the present ministry cannot stand much longer, and that M. Roulet will take the lead followed by M. La Valette, Minister of the Interior, who is completely worn out by incessant work of the most thankless kind; besides which M. La Valette is no longer in the good books of his master, for having allowed the public press of France to publish such flattering accounts of the exiled family of Orleans, when giving a description of the funeral of Marie Antoinette, a number of the *Espresso*, a penny paper, fell into the hands of his Majesty, containing a laudatory article on the pretender to the throne of France the Comte de Paris; his anger knew no bounds, and accused the minister of the interior of winking at the peccadilloes of the press.

A few days later an anecdote published in the *Figaro* one of our domestic bi-weekly papers, was the cause of an energetic campaign to the editor, De Villermont, at the instigation of the Prussian envoy. The anecdote published by the witty journal is as follows:—Count Dismark, was a few days ago unpleasantly surprised when wishing to get out of a railway carriage to find that some political non-sympathizer had nailed the door; the ambitious premier tried in vain to get out of his prison, but to no effect, and the train started again, without anybody coming to his rescue. The police have for some time been looking for the perpetrator, but in vain. We hear that the guard has been dismissed for having allowed so great a man to remain *notens roles*, in duress vile.

The elections in the lower Rhine will begin in a couple of days; the government does not feel easy as the latest advices from Strasbourg inform us that the opposition candidate M. Laboulaye, has a most cordial reception on the part of the Alsaciens, and that it will in any way, be a hard run for the government man M. de Bussiere.

The Cour de Cassation a few days ago decided that persons may be prosecuted for libelling the memory of the dead. Things are indeed come to a very pretty pass and the occupation of the historian is gone—in speaking of Murat we shall have to say that he was a kind hearted amiable man—of Robespierre that he was a perfect lamb, and the monster Booth was the milk of human kindness if we do not wish to render ourselves liable to an action, on the part of the descendants of the same. We shall soon not know what to write about in France.

Mons. Mires the banker and moneyer, the object of so many persecutions, is now on his legs again. Two days ago more than 4,000 Mires Shareholders were assembled in the Cirque to hear his statement; the clever Hebrew speculator was received with thunders of applause, and it was more than a quarter of an hour before he could address his numerous audience. When at last allowed to speak, he begged of the shareholders to authorize him to purchase a general whose aim it should be to defend their interest, and expose to the public in general, the conspiracy which had tried to crush him; he refused to accept the offer of the Shareholders to pay off his debts—before separating the enormous sum of fifteen hundred thousand francs were subscribed in order to enable Mires to carry out his intention of purchasing a general.

Roman the author of the *Vie de Jesus* will shortly give us his *Apocalypse*; it is thought that this new work will not be as successful as his first, as it is said to be inferior to it in every respect. I fear the frivolous craze a great deal more for what is now going on at the Academie de Musique than for Mons. Renan's last publication. Up to the present time the Parisian Opera has been under the management of the state with a grant of three hundred thousand francs; this will now be withdrawn, and the theatre given over to private speculation. There are now several candidates for the directorship, but nobody has as yet been chosen; it is thought that the lot will fall to Mons. Hauman as the Emperor cannot refuse him anything. The saying in Paris is now everything will be Hausmannized before long. It is true Mons. Hausmann is a great man and has done much to beautify the finest capital of the world.

Now that the balls have disappeared, the ladies of Paris have resorted to a new dodge to show off their riches. The latest and the most fancy bazaar for charitable purposes, where the *dames de la fashion* take the place of shop-keepers and sit for hours, selling penwipers and lamp matts, which are quoted at rather high rates.

We notice with regret that the costliness of female dress is rather increasing than otherwise, and that not only the dress maker, but the jewel and the milliner, are getting extraneous of the fair sex. President Johnson seems determined to rebuild the Union after his own fashion for he annuls every measure taken by Congress which is in any way contrary to his way of thinking. We have already seen him twice make use of his right of veto—he now declares the insurrection to have entirely disappeared and that the Southern populations have a right to claim the same privileges as those enjoyed by the Yankees.

The press of the North seems unanimous in thinking that the success of Abraham Lincoln is going rather too fast, and is acting more as a man of the South-ern States, than as President of the Union. One fancies a measure of so much importance ought not to have been put into execution without the sanction of public opinion—it is feared that Johnson will in time become a perfect Cromwell and know no will but his own. This line of conduct is in any way a most dangerous one, and may if continued in, at some later period bring back civil war in United States of North America.

Later intelligence from St. Petersburg sent to the Tuileries by the French envoy at the Imperial Court of Russia, inform us that a diabolical attempt was the day previously made on the life of the Emperor Alexander which luckily proved abortive. We have as yet no further details, but my next epistle will no doubt give you a lengthened account of this melancholy affair.

There is great jubilee at the Tuileries, as the government candidate M. de Bussiere has been re-elected for the Lower Rhine. There was some trembling amongst the partisans of the present dynasty that the opposition member Mr. Laboulaye would be returned; however all anxiety is now over, the Alsaciens have done their duty and all's well that ends well.

RUSSIAN AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.

(Athens.)

(From the Friend of India, March 8.)

The scheme was projected by P. M.D. Collins, U. S. Consul Agent at the mouth of the Amoor, 1837, and although he obtained promises of cordial co-operation from the Russian and English Governments, no actual progress was made until within the past two years. The Western Union Telegraph Company purchased from Mr. Collins his rights and interests, and vigorously commenced the enterprise in 1864. The work was placed under the charge of Col. Charles S. Bulkeley, U. S. A., whose experience as a telegraph-builder and explorer eminently qualified him for the position. In the winter of 1864 the first party, under charge of Mr. E. Conway, reached the mouth of the Fraser River, B. C., and immediately commenced the necessary explorations. From this party we have the most favorable report. The line is already completed to the distance of 450 miles above New Westminster, and provisions and wire necessary for its construction 300 miles farther are already on the ground. It is probable that during the year ending December 30th, 1865, about 800 miles of line will have been completed. A party under Major Pope, which went into the field in June, 1865, are actively engaged in pushing their explorations to the North as far as the Kichik River, which reaches this winter—Major Pope landed at Fort St. Michel, in the month of September, charged with the country, and after explorations already made of America show the better adapted for the purpose than any other line than was proposed by the country presents no serious difficulties, as the Indian tribes, as much as peaceably inclined, under the influence of the Engineer-in-Chief for the North in July first to Sitka where stations were established. Russian Government, Russian American Co., their head-quarters, several posts in the territory, the From Sitka the fleet sailing various islands Sound—where the party to under Major Ken- this point, Fort St. post of the Russian very important, and a second of the same. We shall soon not know what to write about in France.

tious to the North as far as the Kichik River, which reaches this winter—Major Pope landed at Fort St. Michel, in the month of September, charged with the country, and after explorations already made of America show the better adapted for the purpose than any other line than was proposed by the country presents no serious difficulties, as the Indian tribes, as much as peaceably inclined, under the influence of the Engineer-in-Chief for the North in July first to Sitka where stations were established. Russian Government, Russian American Co., their head-quarters, several posts in the territory, the From Sitka the fleet sailing various islands Sound—where the party to under Major Ken- this point, Fort St. post of the Russian very important, and a second of the same. We shall soon not know what to write about in France.

Friday the 11th, &c. The race meeting resque little port of whit being, forme and, it is believed Stand had his app flags, besides being of several ladies. naturally appeared siderately remained The most of the created by the appi imination, appen man's manner, tandem fashion; the correct Derby white hat with red other two species whom blew a horn was duly received Grand Stand and great delight of eve the Chinese race thought it great a

much higher an opinion of one's kind, and of that manly independence of character which has forsaken a bloated and effeminate aristocracy to take up its residence in the bosoms of the sons of the soil. The holy enthusiasm for royalty which made Aldermen and Common Councilors at the Guildhall Ball carry off the combs of rubies and brushes that had touched princely heads is not confined to their exalted order. A pious reverence for royal relics evidently extends through all classes, from the august alderman all the way right down, or right up, to the faithful artisan. The working-classes are not, it is clear, such terrible levelling republicans as their maligners have been all this time so vehemently declaring. These tobacco-stoppers tell a different tale. The bits of consecrated timber will be fondly cherished during the lives of their present possessors, and handed down to their children and their children's children to endless generations, as the most precious of their heirlooms. We wonder, by the way, whether the holy tobacco-stoppers will be found to possess any of that efficacy which used to be attributed in the ages of faith to consecrated relics. Before the blighting of the Irish had spread the human mind in every department of its activity, we know that the touch of the Sovereign restored soundness and health to the victim of scrofula. Scrofula boast that we are no longer such fools as to credit these unreasonable absurdities. Let them go, not to the mouths of babes and sucklings, but down to the ingenious shipwrights of Milwall. These amputated souls at least have escaped the noxious spirit of the age. They are ashamed of holding to the old notion that a certain divinity, with hedge a king. The mere plank that princely feet have trod becomes not as other planks. Is it impossible that the stoppers made from it may impart to the richest flag tobacco the delicate flavour of the finest Havana? May not the rough "cutty" which touches grow pleasant as meerschaum and amber to the lips? It is just possible, though the royal boots may have interrupted the flow of the royal virtue. And this suggests that, if the plank which the Prince only stood upon for a few minutes is so precious, a pair of the boots in which he stands for hours at a time, and which come still more nearly in contact with the princely person, would be of perfectly inestimable value down at Milwall. The human imagination utterly gives way when we try to measure the worth of one of His Royal Highness's Insignia. In fact, there is no end to the number of things which might be graciously distributed among the faithful. Why should not any plank which can be proved to have caught the Prince's eye be instantly chopped up and divided among the eager claimants for the blessed bits? The elevation of character which would ensue from the assiduous culture of this relic-loving temper scarcely needs to be pointed out.

A too serious-minded Liberal must, we fear, suffer unutterable things as he learns what the papers may call "this new proof of the tender devotion of the people of England to the royal youth who will one day be their Ruler." To him these sanctified tobacco-stoppers will be as the golden calf was to Moses, and as graven images and painted windows were to the Puritan. Greatly he will reflect on the lack of duty and self-respect implied in this avidity for little chips whose only distinction is that a Prince's foot may possibly have touched them. That a mere alderman should pocket a hairbrush or a square of soap, or similar graces, is not wonderful. But that sons of toil, with hard hands and harder heads, should condescend to such childishness fills their worshippers with despair. After all, we don't know that the unshaken worship of princes is much less creditable than the infatuated worship of artisans. In either case it is a sort of reverence for an order, irrespective of the worth of the individual members who happen to represent it. Just as the workman at Milwall prizes a chip because it has been somewhere in the neighbourhood of the royal feet, so there are people who prize a sort of sentimental nonsense which may have been uttered by a man who is paid weekly and wears a fustian jacket. That the Prince of Wales is only an English gentleman never strikes the votary of the holy chip. That the artisan, at Milwall and elsewhere, is only a man of stronger prejudices, harder and less mellow judgment, and cruder opinions than those who have been so happy as to have more time for educating themselves, never strikes the fanatics who seem to think that all the virtue and integrity and intelligence of a country are to be found at the very best in dockyards and factories and cotton mills.

The truth is that artisans, like their neighbours, have their weaknesses, and among them is a pleasant and kindly superstition about royalty. It does not to hold all our conduct too closely up to the light of pure reason, or to pare our sentiments down to the narrow dimensions of strict logic. What justification can be offered to the philosopher by the young lady who attaches unmeasured value to the autographs of Mr. Tennyson? We are not at all sure that half the young ladies in England would not be very proud to possess one of Mr. Tennyson's old quill stumps. Yet there is no great truth or noble sentiment or new idea contained in the poet's name, nor does his stump of quill affect the possessor or the scholar to education and a better life. But most people are much like one another, especially young ladies, that even such a distinction as being the possessor of a poet's quill would count for something. And artisans at Milwall, we suspect, are in the same way so very much alike, that the bare fact of owing one of the chips consecrated by the recent royal visit will give some of them an acceptable pre-eminence. It is not much, certainly; but then, as we have said, life is made up of trifles. A passion for relic-loving is probably to be explained in the main by the general desire to be able to say something about yourself and your property. Conversation, as a rule, is so slack that it is very useful to have in one's power to say that in this chair Gray wrote the *Elegy*, or out of that inkpot the *Proverbia Philosophi* flowed. So a sort of tone attaches to a man who can say "this tobacco-stopper is a chip off a plank off a platform on which the Prince of Wales once stood." Considering the common place character of most tobacco-stoppers, we can see at once how this would give a sort of flip to the conversation, and indeed how it would give a bent to the possessor's own mind. The mere ownership of such a chip would entirely prevent him from ever lending any countenance to revolutionary projects. We can fancy that the more he thought about things, with this chip in his fingers, the more genuine a Tory would he become, and the more fervent his reverence for the dy-

nasty on the throne. It might be worth while for a Parliamentary candidate to lay in a stock of such relics, say all the royal old clothes, for electioneering purposes. If the working-classes are by and by to have the upper hand in half the borough elections, these sanctified relics will be of precious value to any deserving candidate. It would be bribery almost on constitutional principles, for it would be promoting loyalty to the Crown. The worst of it is that there could be no authentic mark for such relics. The holy things would be counterfeited. To all appearance old clothes are only old clothes. What rash man will take upon himself to distinguish between the boots of a prince and the boots of plain folk? Who can persuade the doubting mind that my tobacco-stopper was positively and surely made out of the one glorified plank? In a markedly sceptical age this is a horrible drawback. But we should infer from the proceedings at Milwall that we are on the eve of a return to the ideas of old time, when the demon of criticism had not intruded its vile hoof. A man who can value a bit of wood because the Prince has had his foot on it will not likely not be too particular about the evidence of the fact. The comfort of possessing the article must be so huge that he would gladly shut his eyes to disagreeable doubts. It is to be hoped that the illustrated papers will present us with a sketch, in their best manner, of the encouraging and animated scene of the chopped plank, so very characteristic of the superior enlightenment of our country.

(From the "Evening Mail.")

The question of "rights" as possessed by Asiatics constantly in contact with, but in a subservient position to, Europeans of a high order of civilization is one on which most men have practically made up their minds, but which they dislike to discuss. According to the ideas entertained by most of Anglo-Saxon blood—ideas which in the abstract are noble and elevated—one human being is as good as another before the law. We make it our boast that we have not one law for the rich and another for the poor; that the tinge of his complexion does not affect a suitor's right to justice, and that no one individual of the human species has a shadow of right to compel another individual to labour for him against his own will and pleasure or do anything (except comply with the statutes of the land), which he may find distasteful. It might be well to see how far the analogy of nature justifies us in this belief of an universal equality as regards mankind. As however any analogy between the animal and human world is in most cases persistently denied by the worshippers of abstract principles inapplicable to existing facts, we will confine ourselves to the condition of mankind as they have existed from the earliest date until now.

Going back to the earliest periods of authentic history we learn that the Israelites had, amongst them members of alien tribes who were regarded as inferiors in the rights of nationality. We are not speaking of slaves but of those admitted into the tribes of a people under the special protection of the Almighty and governed by laws received direct from the great Ruler of all. In the New Testament we find similar allusions to persons labouring under certain disabilities, and even St. Paul does not hesitate to proclaim himself a "Roman" citizen and thus assert a right to exemption from corporal punishment to which others under the same rule had no claim. We thus find one of the earliest Apostles of Christianity—so erroneously supposed at the present day to inculcate a perfect judicial equality—countenancing the idea that some were "better than others" before the law. It may be urged that he only complied with the custom of the day; but it is at least curious that one who so energetically bore witness to the truth of the faith he had adopted should have omitted to notice a principle so obviously put forth by home-bred Christians of these latter days.

Passing from the early times and turning to European history, we find in all countries and during all ages the same idea of "disabilities," on the part of some section or sections of the community. At this very moment a peer of the realm possesses certain privileges over plain Mr. John Smith which most decidedly render the latter by no means the equal of the former in certain processes of law. Now it is very possible that the plebeian is by no means so far removed in all that constitutes a claim to "rights" from the peer, as a half-naked Chinese coolie is from Mr. Smith, and this brings us to the point; Why should the coolie be Mr. Smith's equal in all respects judicially. When Mr. S. does not himself enjoy that equality in his own country?

Assuming that the Chinaman was socially and intellectually the equal of the European, there are still many reasons for refusing him that legal equality which his admirers would claim for him. Brought up in a school which ignores truth as a

virtue; belonging to a race which has ever shewn itself nationally untrustworthy in its intercourse with Europeans; possessing ideas respecting human life which remove one of the most efficient checks on crime which our own code of belief imposes; cruel in disposition to a scarcely credible extent, and moreover, in the case of Hongkong natives, sprung from a class so low, that the very Chinese themselves regard them as the off-scourings of a country remarkably rich in all that is vile and corrupt, we cannot see why the word of one of these (for oaths are not even binding on his conscience) should be accepted as of equal value with the assertion of an educated and respectable European. Our magistrates doubtless act in strict accordance with the provisions of the law which they administer, but the Chinese laugh at that law. The ingrained belief of centuries cannot be dissipated by a few years' experience of a code which apparently confirms all that they have been taught. The lower class Chinese on this island fully believe that the trifling penalties inflicted for minor crimes are thus light from a fear of consequences on the part of the Chinese Government did we rule in a more arbitrary manner. The result is, firstly, that a Chinaman will push one aside in the street; will refuse to move out of the way when requested, and will unblushingly cheat you to the best of his ability. The secondary results are that the confidence engendered by the fact that insolence on his part is met only by a small fine, while the slightest correction administered by the European is punished by the infliction of a very much larger penalty, lead to murders, highway robberies and piracies being openly committed in our very midst. It is the old story over again of the strong and the weak unequally yoked. The Asiatic cannot comprehend leniency as we understand it, and we avow our opinion that one of the most effectual steps towards the suppression of outrage would be to let the natives fully understand that they were required like the natives of India to show respect to Europeans. We do not advocate inhumanity or injustice, but we do say "rule an Asiatic race on principles which it understands" when fear evaporates, insolence and license immediately become visible, and we do not hesitate to ascribe the past lawlessness of Hongkong to the principle of "equality" which has only too successfully been instilled into the bosoms of the copper-skinned coolies of the island.

(From the "Evening Mail.")

Acopy of the Treaty of Commerce with Austria and the following Notifications appeared in Saturday's Government Gazette.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION

His Excellency Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, is pleased to accept the resignation of their Commissions in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, from the 31st instant, by the following officers, viz.:

Captain and Acting Commandant H. J. H. Tripp, Lieutenant T. G. Linstead, 2d Lieutenant F. L. Hazeldan. Under the circumstances His Excellency is also pleased to order the disbandment of the Corps from the above date.

His Excellency however cannot allow this notice of the disbandment of the Volunteer Corps to go forth to the Public without assuring the Officers and Members of that Corps, who have given so much time to its formation, and who at one period had rendered it so efficient, that His Excellency thoroughly appreciates the zeal and patriotic spirit by which they were animated. He further considers that the Community is under special obligations to those gentlemen and to all who in a similar manner expend their time, exertions and money for objects so essentially Public.

His Excellency greatly regrets that any circumstances should have brought to a close exertions so laudable, but in justice to this Community he must express his belief that the spirit which originated the Volunteer movement would be found to exist fresher and stronger than before, if any real and urgent necessity were to arise for defending, by force of arms, the rights of the Crown, or maintaining the supremacy of the Law in this Colony.

The Hongkong Volunteers would doubtless in such emergency come to the front again more numerous and efficient than ever.

By Command,

W. T. MURDER, Colonial Secretary, Hongkong, 22nd May, 1866.

HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,

VICTORIA, HONGKONG, 10th May, 1866. Notice to Consignees, Masters and Others in charge of Merchant Vessels.

1. On or before the 1st June proximo all ships with the following exceptions shall be moved over to the North side of the Harbour mooring them properly with 45 fathoms on each chain, the anchors lying in an E. N. E. and W. S. W. direction from each other.

2. The Southern line of this anchorage is the North Extremity of Hongkong but in with the South Extremity of the Kowloon Peninsula bearing E. by S.; the Top Gallant Mast and yards are to be on deck and

flying Jib-boom in, a spare anchor should be ready for letting go, and the hawse kept clear.

3. Vessels discharging or taking in cargo, bulk and receiving Ships may lie on the South shore.

4. The Peninsular and Oriental Company's Hulk *Fort William* may remain where she is—the Mail Steamers anchoring near her but not to the Southward.

Note. The Masters of Ships taking advantage of articles 3 and 4 and those along-side wharves and jetties are to understand that they do so at their own risk.

H. G. THOMSON, Harbour Master, &c.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The time appointed for the payment of the Police, Lighting and Water Rates for the present Quarter expires on the 21st instant, after which date the List of Defaulters will be transmitted to the Court of Summary Jurisdiction for recovery of the arrears of Rates according to Law.

FEED. FORTH, Colonial Treasurer.

Treasury, Hongkong, Victoria, May, 17th, 1866.

THE FENIAN MOVEMENT.

(From the Morning Herald, April 4.)

We are hardly disposed to be angry with the Fenian movement in the development which America has been giving it. We are much disposed to look upon it as the latest of the Transatlantic schemes which have been so long the wonder of the wits of Europe, and to make the most of it, as another of the harmless contributions which the States have been making to the gaiety of nations. Something of the extraordinary is considered an integral part of American politics, which would probably have fallen on the popular taste were there no sensational element to act as a condiment for them. But the Fenian business must be admitted to be the *plus ultra* of the quality. It is the cleverest locus-pocus which the fertile invention of democratic speculators has yet hit on. It means quite as little as the other great popular organisations with which they have been supplying us in such rapid succession during the last twenty years, but it is larger and more imposing than most of them. There is more sail, a great deal, and we are less left for performance in the Nicaragua and Hungary over again, but to limit the delusion within reasonable bounds or throw over it the halo of poetic responsibility. It is a good specimen of the old wholesale Irish legerdemain, a bad version in America of the gigantic delusions with which Daniel O'Connell so long amused and impoverished the people in Ireland. It is not new, but it is so full of the peculiar genius of the thing as it is, and, as usual, reproduces abroad more than the industry and enterprise which were exceptionally visible in the original fabrication at home. It may be doubted if ever the great agitator could have invented like machinery with equal ingenuity, or used it with more dexterity and energy. Considering the temperance of the Irish people it was a masterpiece of cunning to set up the prospect of an Irish nation in the centre of the great Republic, and invest it with the attributes of an actually existing government. What more could the most duped, the most suspicious of Irish patriots, ask to draw out his last half dollar than the spectacle of old Ireland by his side—albeit, the wrong side of an ocean—with a senate, congress, and president, all ready at his hand, with state funds and treasury, an army and a private navy, all prepared for facing everybody to recognise her as a belligerent nation? It was a stroke of genius never reached by any of the phrases which the repeal agitation went through, and was the most likely in the world to re-echo those old sentiments of a generous fervour and fury of Irish patriotism which so many disappointments had cooled and were supposed to have extinguished for ever.

That that done, all was done. The professional aspect of the business was satisfied without any active reference to the *ultima ratio* of sovereign states. You may always be sure with a staff of Irish general officers that the campaign is over when the *puniparules* are at an end. It is part of the vehemence of Irish statesmanship to exhaust itself in the discussions it necessitates. There is never anything worth fighting about the moment it is time to fight. The war that followed the capture of the Fenian leaders would be the most misplaced thing in the world anywhere else. The everything—action—in the Athenian's orations, is equally absorbing and exclusive in theirs. It was always to be foreseen that the leaders had so much to talk over about the invasion of Canada that the thing itself was a sheer impossibility. There was the question whether it really was or was not the nearest route to Ireland. There was, secondly, the consideration of the shorter line might not be found by the way of Columbia and Vancouver's Island. There was some doubt, too, whether the Canadians would leave them alone; and even if Canada offered them free quarters, there was the question whether the treasury, cleared of its merely promissory values, would pay for all the "figuring" necessary to carry them over the frontiers. Had Canada been offered St. Patrick's-day to Messrs. Sweeney and O'Mahoney as the price of a treasury chest with a ten thousand pound note inside, helped by a few spiked guns and rusty muskets, we suspect the reasons would have preponderated which would have bidden them decline the conquest. We should have pitied these gentlemen if any conjuncture of circumstances had made it worth their while to set their army in motion and forced them to leave the shorter line in that of action. The organisation which was got against all the world while there was nothing to do must be held to have done its work on the celebrated day when it was to transport thirty thousand Irishmen across the frontier, and—did not. A mere ginger-beer business, it exploded on the first notorious failure, and we have nothing now but the loss to keep up whatever excitement may remain to amuse the class of ultra-Irishmen who may be victims against all odds. Luckily these are not, perhaps, the majority. The demonstrations of the Irishmen at Montreal and Toronto on St. Patrick's-day may be taken as proof that the collapse of the bubble at New York was already producing its effect in Canada. So unanimous an expression of Irish feeling could have been elicited by nothing less than a thorough disgust at the failure of every one of the promises and expectations which had been held out by the patriotic movement in the States.

It is scarcely permitted us to hope that a

like effect may be produced on the more ignorant or excitable elements we have to deal with in the mother country and the United States. The generation brought up at the footstool of O'Connell must die out, before we hear the last of the ardent dupe who support, or of the ardent patriots who manage to be supported, by voluntary subscriptions on the understanding that whatever atmosphere they may be living in is to be kept full of the soap-bubbles of an impossible nationality. More troublesome than dangerous, they task our patience more than they challenge our antagonism, and our wisest plan, perhaps, is to invite the Government of the United States, in looking on with as much placidity as possible, and in contenting ourselves with exhausting the material of annoyance in the same proportion as we may be allowing it to be elicited. Beyond the schemes of a few concealed persons whose ambition has borne an ill proportion to their success, and beyond the enthusiasm of some two or three thousand poor but earnest patriots, there is really nothing in all these movements but hollow and meaningless demonstrations on the part of the people, and stupidulous lying and fabrications on the part of the leaders. The soldiers are all men in black; the privateers are so many phantom ships; and as for the dollars—the true test of the solidity of the fabric—the chances are that we should be found guilty of credulity in believing that a hundredth part of the money for which they are claiming to be indebted was ever received by them. The project has been as much unworkable as the most swindling of the schemes brought out by our own needy promoters, and beyond the necessity of securing the daily loaf, the only hope the leaders have connected with the affair is, that some singular conjuncture of circumstances may create a popular madness, and giving them a nation of dupes to cover the immensity of their frauds with a corresponding immensity of success.

There was never a reasonable one, and has now failed in America as it failed months ago in Ireland, and all that probably remains for us in the future is to chronicle how the atavism which was so long used to raise the imposture is now used to protect its authors from the consequences of their failure.

(From the "Evening Mail.")

The numerous blunders committed by the employes on the Indo-European telegraphic line are fast losing it the confidence of commercial firms in both India and China. But a short time ago the Commercial Bank narrowly escaped incurring heavy pecuniary damage from this cause, and we observed a notice in one of the papers received the mail before last, that a telegraphic message despatched from Bombay reached England just one day after the letters of which it was the necessary precursor.

To residents in India this state of affairs is very naturally such as to call for strong remonstrance, and the attention of Government has already been drawn to the condition into which the line has fallen. For merchants in China however another route is now open and it is to be hoped that as soon as it gets into thorough working order there will be a chance of receiving telegrams in a sufficiently short space of time to justify the public in relying on the conductors of the line to supply an acknowledged necessity of the times.

At present the shortest space of time in which under the most favourable circumstances we can look to receive telegraphic messages by Grant's line may be stated at about 25 days distributed as follows:—From Hongkong to Shanghai 5 days; Shanghai to Taku 4 days; Taku to Peking 1 day; Peking to Kintcha 10 days; Kintcha to England 5 days; Total 25 days. In this age however of Atlantic cables, why should not an attempt be made to connect Shanghai with Hongkong. The soundings shew an average of 24 fathoms water as far as Formosa, and about 50 fathoms beyond that island to Shanghai with no deep gullies or coral edges likely to materially interfere with the safety of the cable. Of course the objection that Shanghai is not part of the British dominions and that the Chinese authorities would steadfastly oppose any proceeding so likely to interfere with their popular superstitions, would be instantly advanced in opposition to what might be termed so chimerical a scheme. The latter might be met however by carrying the end of the cable on board a hulk securely moored in the river while the dangers to which it would be exposed from ships anchoring in the river might be greatly lessened by a line of buoys by which all foreign vessels would be warned of their proximity to the cable. In a river of which the bottom is composed of such soft materials it would soon sink sufficiently deep in the mud to be safe from all but very determined efforts to foul it.

In the present state of Shanghai and Hongkong the former almost rivaling Calcutta and the latter of daily increasing importance as a centre of trade, such a proposition can scarcely be termed absurd. That physical obstacles may interfere to prevent the scheme being carried out is possible but, as far as we can judge at present there are none which equal those already successfully overcome by European enterprise. If we wait till the Chinese give us permission or invite us to construct

telegraphic station at Shanghai or in its vicinity we shall wait *ad infinitum*. The idea is at all events worth discussion.

RAZORS.

(From the Spectator, April 14.)

It is, we suppose, rather below the dignity of History to write upon razors, real razors, sharp things of fat steel, with which people who aspire to smooth chins daily cut off their beards and exasperate their tempers. It was a great writer, however, who said that he questioned whether the habit of shaving in old sex—we fear he lived before the beard movement—was not a fair compensation for the pain of child-bearing in the other. Each is in some degree the result of civilization, for while savage women bear their children and go to work the next day without any perceptible ill consequences, savage men either exempt themselves from shaving altogether, or adopt means more summary and of less frequent recurrence than the daily operation with steel. One race uses fire, another punishment, another lime, and a fourth the hard inner cuticle of the oyster-shell, a device which seems ingeniously adapted to combine the largest amount of ugliness with the greatest quantity of suffering. The civilized world, however, and the semi-civilized, so far as it shaves, which is extensively, the Mussulman world alone attaching real sanctity to the beard, has adopted the razor, and it is worth the while to trace the history of this very good thing to its origin, and to see how it has been shaped and made of an instrument so incessantly in use. Upon that point we have a little information to give them which seems to us obviously sound, and which is derived from an essay by a cutter, or, as he proudly styles himself, a "razor maker," one Benjamin Kingsbury, of Bond Street. In an exceedingly verbose and slightly pompous but very sensible pamphlet, he gives the lay barbers a lesson, and a very good hint, a "wrinkle" which we should have thought a cutter's interest to keep very strictly to himself. Of course his advice is of no use to professionals, even if they would take it. They learn to know a good razor by practice, they are masters of the mystical, and to most men unattainable, art called "stropping," and they can make up for any temporary defect by skill in manipulation. It is not given to lay shavers to make those long sweeping strokes, any more than to untrained oarsmen, nor did any layman that ever we meet acquire that ineffable, and as it were spiritual, mystery, the art of giving the last edge to the weapon by a stroke or two on the palm. Besides, the barbers have an advantage none of their subjects, or patients, or clients, or constituents, or whatever they call them, can ever hope to rival. They cannot shave by the aid of a leverage, as the razor maker does, and the long barbers' strokes, any more than the long strokes of a painter, are a waste of time, but to the outside world, the wretched majority who have neither time, nor patience, nor nerve to be artistically shaven, there is one little secret about the operation worth knowing, and that is this. The only test for a razor is a microscope. As a rule, almost all English razors are intended to be good, the cheap specimens as well as the dear and indeed the cheap specimens are good just as often as the dear. The present writer has not enough on him, when prouder of having a beard than he is now, to give a guinea for a pair of razors supposed to be by the best maker in England, and declared next day his belief that they would not cut butter. That was an unjustifiable exaggeration, for properly managed they would have cut it; but they were very bad, and he degrades from the crown of the shaving, and two-shilling razors to which in explanation he thereafter confined himself. The reason is explained very clearly by Mr. Kingsbury, rather more clearly perhaps than he exactly intended. A razor is nothing more or less than a saw, with very minute and thin teeth, which does not cut—nothing cuts—but saws off the hair of the beard. If those teeth are straight, continuous, and even, the razor is a good one; and if not, not; and there is no other reliable test for razors. When you buy one at any price over a shilling—it is hard to criticize at that price—look steadily along its edge through a strong magnifier until you find one whose teeth are as even as those of a saw. That nine times out of ten will be a good razor, while one with uneven or broken teeth never can by any chance be good. "The edge of a razor, a pen-knife, and every other very keen instrument, consists of a great number of minute points, commonly called teeth, which, if the instrument is in itself good, and in good condition, follow each other through its whole extent with great order and closeness, and constitute by their unbroken regularity its excessive keenness. The edge of such an instrument acts on the beard, the skin or anything else, not so much by the direct application of weight or force as by being drawn, even slightly, along it; because, by this operation, the teeth of which it consists pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the consequences. But let them move it from that direction, let them draw it towards them, or push it from them, in the smallest degree, in the gentlest manner, and it will instantly make an incision. When they have made this experiment, they will be convinced of the truth of what I have asserted, namely, that in the operation of shaving, very little weight, and even very little force, are necessary." There is of fine teeth of which it consists, pass in quick succession, in the same direction, and over the same part of the substance. My readers will be convinced of this if they will make the following experiment on their glove or their hand, as they like best. Let them hold the razor either perpendicularly or obliquely, and press on it with some considerable force in a direct line from right to left, and they will have no great reason to feel the

